

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A spinning reel slot machine, comprising:

an image display device having a surface for producing images of simulated mechanical reels;

a plurality of optical fibers have first ends optically coupled to said surface of said image display device and second ends for displaying said simulated mechanical reels to a player of said slot machine, at least some of said second ends defining a curved display surface having a radius of curvature that approximates ~~[[the]]~~ a radius of curvature of a mechanical reel; and

a flat transmissive window in front of and separated from said curved display surface.
2. (Cancelled)
3. (Original) The slot machine of claim 1, wherein all of said second ends define said curved display surface.
4. (Original) The slot machine of claim 1, wherein at least some of said second ends define a flat display surface adjacent to said curved display surface.
5. (Currently Amended) The slot machine of claim 4, wherein said flat display is configured to display ~~displays~~ alphanumeric information and said curved display surface is configured to display ~~displays~~ symbols on said simulated mechanical reels.

6. (Original) The slot machine of claim 1, wherein said radius of curvature is in the range of from about 4 to about 7 inches.

7. (Original) The slot machine of claim 1, wherein said image display device is a CRT display.

8. (Currently Amended) A method of operating a slot machine, comprising:
selecting a random outcome in response to receiving a wager;
determining a symbol grouping corresponding to said random outcome; and
displaying said symbol grouping on ends of an array of optical fibers, said ends ~~define~~ defining a curved display surface having a radius of curvature that approximates ~~[[the]]~~ a radius of curvature of a mechanical reel, said symbol groupings being representative of simulated mechanical reels.

9. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein said displaying includes transmitting images of said symbol grouping through said optical fibers from an image source.

10 – 50 (Cancelled)

51. (Currently Amended) A gaming machine, comprising:
a processor ~~[[for]]~~ configured to randomly select ~~selecting~~ an outcome from a plurality of outcomes in response to receiving a wager;
an image display device having a surface for producing images, said images corresponding to said selected outcome of said plurality of outcomes; and

a plurality of optical fibers have first ends optically coupled to said surface of said image display device and second ends for displaying said images to a player of said gaming machine to inform said player of said selected outcome of said plurality of outcomes, wherein at least some of said second ends define a curved display surface.

52. (Previously Presented) The gaming machine of claim 51, wherein said curved display surface has a radius of curvature that approximates the radius of curvature of a mechanical slot reel.

53. (Cancelled).

54. (Previously Presented) The gaming machine of claim 51, wherein at least some of said second ends define a flat display surface.

55. (Previously Presented) The slot machine according to claim 1, wherein said image display device is an LCD display.

56. (Previously Presented) The slot machine according to claim 1, wherein said image display device is an LED array.